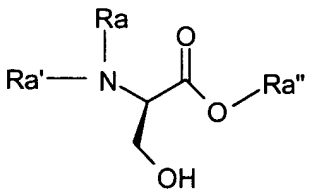
In the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) ~~Use of~~ A method for treating cognitive disorders or mnestic disorders which accompany CNS diseases, comprising administering to a patient a *R*(+)-2-amino-3-hydroxypropanoic acid derivative of formula I



(I)

wherein Ra is a hydrogen[[,]] ;

Ra' is a hydrogen, a straight or branched chain (C_3-C_6)alkenyl, 3-oxo(C_4-C_6)alkyl, 3-oxo(C_4-C_6)alken-2-yl group, a phenyl(C_1-C_6)alkyl, phenyl(C_2-C_6)alkenyl, gem-diphenyl(C_1-C_6)alkyl, gem-diphenyl(C_2-C_6)alkenyl, *R*(+)-2-aminopropionyl, *S*(-)-2-aminopropionyl, N-(C_2-C_6)alcanoyl-*R*(+)-2-aminopropionyl, N-(C_2-C_6)alcanoyl-*S*(-)-2-aminopropionyl, N-benzyloxycarbonyl-*R*(+)-2-aminopropionyl, N-benzyloxycarbonyl-*S*(-)-2-aminopropionyl, *R*(+)-2,6-diamino-*n*-hexanoyl, *S*(-)-2,6-diamino-*n*-hexanoyl, N,N'-bis-(C_2-C_6)alcanoyl-*R*(+)-2,6-diamino-*n*-hexanoyl, N,N'-(C_2-C_6)alcanoyl-*S*(-)-2,6-diamino-*n*-hexanoyl, N,N'-bis-benzyloxycarbonyl-*R*(+)-2,6-diamino-*n*-hexanoyl, N,N'-bis-benzyloxycarbonyl-*S*(-)-2,6-diamino-*n*-hexanoyl group;

or Ra and Ra' are together a phenyl(C_1-C_6)alkylydene or gem-diphenyl(C_1-C_6)alkylidene group;

Ra" is a hydrogen, a straight or branched chain (C_1-C_6)alkyl group or a (C_3-C_6)cycloalkyl(C_1-C_6)alkyl, phenyl(C_1-C_2)alkyl or phenacetyl group[[,]] ;

the phenyl group or groups present in the substituents Ra, Ra' and Ra" being non-substituted or substituted by a halogen atom or by a hydroxy, (C_1-C_3)alkoxy, cyano, nitro or acetyl group[[,]] ;

with the proviso that, when Ra and Ra' are both H, then Ra" is other than a hydrogen, (C_1-C_6)alkyl or non-substituted benzyl; or of one of its pharmaceutically acceptable salts~~, for preparation of drugs for the treatment of cognitive disorders or mnestic disorders which accompany CNS diseases due to reduced glycinergic transmission~~.

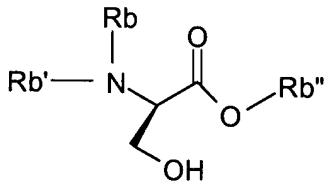
2. (Currently Amended) ~~Use~~ The method according to claim 1, wherein said CNS disease ~~due to reduced glycinergic transmission~~ is schizophrenia.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~Use~~ The method according to claim 1, wherein said CNS disease ~~due to reduced glycinergic transmission~~ is autism.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~Use~~ The method according to claim 1, wherein said CNS disease ~~due to reduced glycinergic transmission~~ is Alzheimer's disease.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~Use~~ The method according to ~~any of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, wherein said *R*(+)-2-amino-3-hydroxypropanoic acid derivative is selected from the group ~~comprising~~ consisting of N-[*R*(+)-2-aminopropionyl]-*R*(+)-2-amino-3-hydroxypropanoic acid, the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, N-[*S*(-)-2-aminopropionyl]-*R*(+)-2-amino-3-hydroxypropanoic acid, the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, N-[2-[*S*(-)-benzyloxycarbonylamino]propionyl]-*R*(+)-2-amino-3-hydroxypropanoic acid, the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, N-benzyl-*R*(+)-2-amino-3-hydroxypropanoic acid and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

6. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising~~, as active principle,~~ a pharmaceutically effective dose of a *R*(+)-2-amino-3-hydroxypropanoic acid derivative of formula II



(II)

wherein Rb is a hydrogen[[,]] ;

Rb' is a hydrogen, a straight or branched chain (C_3-C_6)alkenyl, 3-oxo(C_4-C_6)alkyl, 3-oxo(C_4-C_6)alken-2-yl group, a phenyl(C_1-C_6)alkyl, phenyl(C_2-C_6)alkenyl, gem-diphenyl(C_1-C_6)alkyl, gem-diphenyl(C_2-C_6)alkenyl, N-(C_2-C_6)alcanoyl-*R*(+)-2-aminopropionyl, N-(C_2-C_6)alcanoyl-*S*(-)-2-aminopropionyl, N-benzyloxycarbonyl-*R*(+)-2-aminopropionyl, N-benzyloxycarbonyl-*S*(-)-2-aminopropionyl, *R*(+)-2,6-diamino-*n*-hexanoyl, *S*(-)-2,6-diamino-*n*-hexanoyl, N,N'-bis-(C_2-C_6)alcanoyl-*R*(+)-2,6-diamino-*n*-hexanoyl, N,N'-(C_2-C_6)alcanoyl-*S*(-)-2,6-diamino-*n*-hexanoyl, N,N'-bis-benzyloxycarbonyl-*R*(+)-2,6-diamino-*n*-hexanoyl,

N,N'-bis-benzyloxycarbonyl-*S*(-)-2,6-diamino-*n*-hexanoyl group; or

Rb and Rb', are together a phenyl(C_1-C_6)alkylydene or gem-diphenyl(C_1-C_6)alkylidene group;

Rb" is a hydrogen, a straight or branched chain (C_1-C_6)alkyl group or a (C_3-C_6)cycloalkyl(C_1-C_6)alkyl, phenyl(C_1-C_2)alkyl or phenacetyl group[[,]] ;

the phenyl group or groups present in the Rb, Rb' and Rb" substituents being non-substituted or substituted by a halogen atom or by a hydroxy, (C_1-C_3)alkoxy, cyano, nitro or acetyl group[[,]] ;

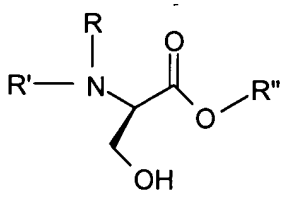
with the proviso that, when Rb and Rb' are both H, then Rb" is other than a hydrogen, (C_1-C_6)alkyl or non-substituted benzyl and that, when Rb is a hydrogen and Rb' is a non-substituted benzyl, a N-benzyloxycarbonyl-*S*(-)-2-aminopropionyl, a *R*(+)-2-aminopropionyl or *S*(-)-2-aminopropionyl, then Rb" is other than hydrogen;

or one of its pharmaceutically acceptable salts, in admixture with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~Pharmaceutical~~ The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 6, wherein said ~~active principle~~ *R*(+)-2-amino-3-hydroxypropanoic acid derivative of formula II is selected from the group comprising 2-oxo-2-phenylethyl *R*(+)-2-amino-3-hydroxypropanoate, the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, cyclopropylmethyl *R*(+)-2-amino-3-hydroxypropanoate, the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, 4-acetylphenyl *R*(+)-2-amino-3-hydroxypropanoate, the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, N-[2-[*R*(+)-2,6-diaminohexanoyl]-*R*(+)-2-amino-3-hydroxypropanoic acid, the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, N-[2-[*S*(-)-2,6-diaminohexanoyl]-*R*(+)-2-amino-3-hydroxypropanoic acid, the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, ethyl N-[*S*(-)-2-aminopropionyl]-*R*(+)-2-amino-3-hydroxypropanoate, the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, methyl N-[2-[*S*(-)-benzyloxycarbonylamino]propionyl]-*R*(+)-2-amino-3-hydroxypropanoate, the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, ethyl N-[2-[*S*(-)-benzyloxycarbonylamino]propionyl]-R(+)-2-amino-3-hydroxypropanoate, the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, N-[2-[*R*(+)-benzyloxycarbonylamino]propionyl]-*R*(+)-2-amino-3-hydroxypropanoic acid, the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, methyl N-[2-[R(+)-benzyloxycarbonylamino]propionyl]-*R*(+)-2-amino-3-hydroxypropanoate, the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, N-[2-[*S*(-)-N,N'-bis-

benzyloxycarbonyl-2,6-diaminohexanoyl]-*R*(+)-2-amino-3-hydroxypropanoic acid, the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, methyl N-[2-[*R*(+)-N,N'-bis-benzyloxycarbonyl-2,6-diaminohexanoyl]-*R*(+)-2-amino-3-hydroxypropanoate, the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, methyl N-[2-[*S*(-)-N,N'-bis-benzyloxycarbonyl-2,6-diaminohexanoyl]-*R*(+)-2-amino-3-hydroxypropanoate, the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, ethyl N-[2-[*R*(+)-N,N'-bis-benzyloxycabonyl-2,6-diaminohexanoyl]-*R*(+)-2-amino-3-hydroxypropanoate, the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, ethyl N-benzyl-*R*(+)-2-amino-3-hydroxypropanoate and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

8. (Currently Amended) A *R*(+)-2-amino-3-hydroxypropanoic acid derivative of formula III



(III)

wherein R is a hydrogen;

R' is a hydrogen, a phenyl(C_2-C_6)alkenyl, gem-diphenyl(C_1-C_6)alkyl group other than benzhydryl, gem-diphenyl(C_2-C_6)alkenyl; or

R and R', together, form a phenyl(C_1-C_6)alkylidene or gem-diphenyl(C_1-C_6)alkylidene group; R" is a hydrogen or a (C_1-C_6)alkyl, (C_3-C_6)cycloalkyl(C_1-C_6)alkyl, phenyl(C_1-C_2)alkyl or phenacetyl group;

the phenyl group or groups being non-substituted or substituted by a halogen atom or by a hydroxy, (C_1-C_3)alkoxy, cyano, nitro or acetyl group[[,]] ;

with the proviso that, when R and R' are both hydrogen, then R" is other than a hydrogen, (C_1-C_6)alkyl or non-substituted benzyl; or one of its pharmaceutically acceptable salts.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The *R*(+)-2-amino-3-hydroxypropanoic acid derivative according to claim 8, ~~of formula III,~~ where R' is a ω-diphenyl(C_2-C_6)alkyl group.

10. (Original) *R*(+)-N-(4,4-diphenyl)butyl-2-amino-3-hydroxypropanoic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

11. (Original) *R*(+)-N-[(4,4-diphenyl)-3-butenyl]-2-amino-3-hydroxypropanoic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

12. (Original) *R*(+)-N-[α-phenyl-(2-hydroxy)benzylidene]-2-amino-3-hydroxypropanoic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

13. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein said treatment increases glycinergic transmission in said patient.